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CONFIDENTIAL DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY HEADQUARTERS LOT BATTALION, 83D ARTHLERY CAVGAZ-C Operational Kepert. for Quarterly Feriod Ending 31 Octo 9 Reports Control Symbol CSFOi-65 (U) 0) CAPHRU: Commanding Officer 54th Artillery Group a seliment committee APO 96376 files of the United Pt. Lange Laws, Title, 17. The transmission or the revention of but composes in any maner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law." Commanding General II Field Force Vietnam Artillery (18) OACSFOR ATTN: AVFE-FAC APO 96266 Commanding General United States Army Vietnam ATTN: AVHGC-DH APO 96375 Commander in Chief United States Army Pacific ATTN: GPOP-MH APO 96558 TO: Assistant Chief of Staff Department of the Army STATEMENT #2 CLASSIFIED ATTN: ACSFOR, DA In addition to security requirements which Washingtion, D.C. 20310 must be met, this document is subject to special export controls and each transmittal mik(003 650) to foreign governments or foreign nationals may be made only with prior approval of OACSFOR, ATTN: FOR-OT-M, Washington, DC 20310 Telephoned above SIGNIFICANT HEADQUARTERS OR UNIT ACTIVITIES G3-S-G. X - /80 Administration and Fersonnel: The 1st Eattalion, 83d Artillery remains assigned to 2801692 54th artillery Group. NOTORN AVC-67-8 0868/ FOR OTEU 674021 Ahvo/5-3833 5-68-

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b. Normal 3-1 activities have been conducted during the period 1 august 1967 through 31 October 1967.

c. Personnel strength of the command on 31 October 1967 was:

. mains	T	DE AI	JTH .	MTOE PENDING ASSIGNED	כ
UNIT	OFF	. MO	EM	OFF WO EM OFF WO	EM.
Headquarters Btry	19	1	146	+1 +1 +34 12 1	146
A Eattery	3	0	110	+1 +21 4	122
B Battery	3	0	110	+1 +21 4	111
C Pattery	3	0	110	+1 +21 4	119
Service Battery	3	3	68	+11 3 2	67
Totals	31	4	544	+4 +1 +108 27 3	565

d. Fersonnel changes during this quarter include:

(1) GAINS: OFF WO EM (2) LOSSES: OFF WO EM

1 2 189 15 1 238

(3)A personnel infusion program with the 1st Eattalion, 27th Artillery, 23d Group was completed on 20 October 1967. 24 personnel of assorted enlisted MOSs and grades were infused.

e. Casualties included:

TYPE	NUMBER		
Killed in Action	0		
Wounded in Action	0		
Missing in Action	0		
Non-Battle Dead	0		
Non-Battle Casualties	0		

f. Awards and Decorations presented to members of this command included:

TYPE	NUMBER
Silver Star Legion of Merit Bronze Star (Valor) Bronze Star (Merit) Air Medal (Merit) Air Medal (Oak Leaf Cluster) Soldiers Medal Commendation Medal (Valor) Ocumendation Medal (Herit) Purple Heart	0 0 0 12 6 2 0 0 26

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1 November 1967

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Note: In addition to these awards, 16 recommendations for awards have been submitted and are pending approval by UsanV.

g. Judicial and non-judicial actions by units included:

UNIT	ARTICLE 15	SUML ARY COUNT	SI ECIAL COURT	GENEILAL COURT
lieadquarters Lattery	0	0	2	0
a battery	4	O	. 1	O
B Battery	5	0	4	0
C Eattery	7	С	3	0
Service Pattery	1	1	0	0
Totals	17	ı	10	O

lertinent medical service statistics include:

Total patient visits (unit personnel)	610
Admitted to hospital	6
Evacuated within the country	O
Evacuated out of country	0
Malaria Cases	0

Reportable accidents included:

UNIT	VEHICLE	<u> AIRCRAFT</u>	PERSONNEL
Headquarters Eattery	1	0	1
A Dattery	0	0	0
F Eattery	2	Ċ	2
C Eattery	1	0	1
Service Battery	1	0	C
Totals	5	С	4

2. (C) Intelligence:

- (U) Sources available to this battalion are as follows:
- (1) (C) MACV Binh Tuy Sector and 18th ARVN is contacted on a daily basis by E Battery, 1st Battalion, 83d Artillery, Ham Tan.



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1 November 1967

SUPJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Leriod Ending 31 October 1967, Reports Control Symbol CSFOR-65 (U)

- (2) (C) MaCV Phuor Tuy Sector conduct intelligence seminar of all US agencies and commands operating in this province each Monday.
- (3) (C) Intelligence briefings are attended daily at LATF. In addition, intelligence seminars conducted Tuesdays and Fridays by LATF Intelligence Officer.
 - (4) (U) Vit's made daily to this HQ.
- b. (U) Exchange of information is made on a personal exchange basis.
- c. (U) Supplementing the above information this MQ receives from L.TF on a daily basis or periodic basis:
 - (1) OP Orders
 - (2) CO Daily Sitrep
 - (3) Frag Intsum
 - (4) OF Study
 - (5) POW Reports
 - (6) Fatrol Flans
 - (7) TGT List
 - (8) Fasswords and Foint of Orgin
 - (9) Troop Information
- d. (U) Information obtained above is integrated with information received from IIFFV and 54th Artillery Group Headquarters

3. (c) Training:

- a. On the job and individual cross training continues in all units of the battalion.
- b. All individual replacements received a 19 hour training program within 7 days of arrival in the unit.
- c. A total of three enlisted men have received 8 inch nuclear warhead assembly refresher training during the reported period at HQ, 8th US Army, APO 96301.
- d. A total of 2 officers and 5 enlisted men attended a FADAC computer course conducted by the 54th Artillery Group 5-9 September 1967. The M-18 fire direction computers were issued to the battalion at the conclusion of the course.

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6. A Seminar was held at this handwarters to discuss the methods of the observer finding his location by using artillery fire. Forward Observer from all betteries attended.

4. (C) Operations:

- a. Normal operations, consistant with the battalion mission were conducted during the reported period.
- b. Operation Hallarat (4 through 16 august) Pattery a supported the 1st australian Task Force in a search and destroy operation in an area northeast of Nui Nghe from vic. YS423656. 943 rounds were fired by this unit luring the operation.
- c. Operation Atherton (16 through 23 August) Rattery A supported the 1st Australian Task Force in a search and destroy mission. 879 rounds were fired by this unit during this operation.
- d. Operation minslie (1 through 21 September) Fattery a supported the 1st mustralian Task Force in a search and destroy mission north of the LATF's position in an area around Route 2 in the vicinity of their resettlement project. 1448 rounds were fired in support of this operation.
- e. Operation Quicksilver III (13 through 20 September) Battery C supported the 18th ARVN Division in a search and destroy mission approximately 14,000 meters southeast of Chua Chan moutain, from vic YT631084. A total of 289 rounds were fired by this unit during the operation.
- f. Operation Kenmore (3C September through 13 October) Eattery A supported the 1st Australian Task Force in a search and destroy mission in the vicinity of Xuyen Moc. 764 rounds were fired in support of this operation.
- g. Artillery Raid (7 October) Battery C moved to the 11th Amored Cavalry base camp at Blackherse for 24 hours. During this period, Battery C along with Battery A and other artillery units saturated an area approximately 16,000 square meters in the vicinity of Thua Tich. The VC D445th Battalion was suspected to be in this area. The saturation attack was accomplished by preplanned H & I fires in coordination with a CS air drop by II Field Force. 298 rounds were fired in support of this operation.
- h. Operation Ther (21 October 1967) Eattery A supported Haria Sector HQ in a search and destroy mission in the Phuoc Tuy Province. 78 rounds were fired in support of this operation.
- i. The following number of missions were fired with total amounts of amounition listed below:

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AVG.Z-C 1 November 1967 SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 October 1967, Reports Control Symbol CSFOR-65 (U)

<u>unit</u> ·	NUMBER OF MI	46 In the selection of	MMUNITION	
Lattery.A	<u>8</u> " 2420	<u> </u>	<u>8</u> 1' 4(54	<u>175m</u> 4826
Lattery E	2099	1841	2877	3282
Lattery C	1578	1416	2430	2656
Total	60.97	5941	9411	10764
5. (c) Logistics:				

- a. During the rejerted period no major problems arose with the exception of resupply to hattery B (located at Ham Tan). Resupply has been effected to Ham Tan by air and water transportation from Vung Tau.
- (1) Resurrly by hir: Availability of proper aircraft has been irregular. Damage to the asphalt surface, caused by heavily laden C-13C aircraft, has been noted at the airstrip (ZS 989841).
- (2) Resultly by Water: LCV and barge resupply of Eattery E has not been successful, because the battery encountered difficulties when vehicles are required to ford the inlet separating the off loading joint on the sandbar and the mainland. The sandy bottom of the inlet does not support heavy vehicles.
- b. Maintenance support is continuing to improve, however some problem areas still exist. The major problems encountered here are locating and obtaining critically needed repair parts. Intensive command attention has been initiated to resolve this problem.
- 6. (C) Communications: A continuing effort is being made to improve our communications with Lattery 5 which is 40 miles from the Lattalian. A plan to implement VHF with MRC 69 or MRC 54 "Shots" is now under way. Additional VHF is required for this unit to have better communications.

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AVGAZ-C 1 November 1967 SUEJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 October 1967, Reports Control Symbol CSFOR-65 (U)

SECTION 1.1

PART I, OBJERVATIONS

1. Personnel and Administation

None

2. Intelligence

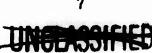
None

3. Training and Organization

None

- 4. Operations:
- (C)a. Item: Forward Air Controllers.
- (1) Discussion: Forward Air Controllers are unaware that the cannon battery FDC uses a mathematical solution in arriving at firing data to bring effective fire on destruction fire missions once the adjustment phase is completed and FFE is requested. Usually the FDC has to interpret the Forward Air Controller's small corrections for range and deflection in the FFE in order to arrive at sensings needed to refine firing data. Generally Forward Air Controllers feel they can, by moving around. with normal area fire procedures, destroy a target without using the accepted destruction techniques.
- (2) Observation: Forward Air Controllers should be thoroughly acquainted with destruction fire techniques in order to bring effective fire on hard targets withour wasting ammunition.
 - b. Item: Lifting equipment/recovery vahicle equipment.
- (1) Discussion: Separate battery operations (e.g. Battery B at Ham Tan and Eattery C'at Xuan Loclare isolated and causes ineffective battalion support in the form of a wrecker, fork lift or recovery vehicle need. Current operations are possible only due to vehicles borrowed from nearby or attached units. However, there is no quarantee of availability of these vehicles.
- (2) Observation: The separated batteries need organically assigned fork lift (10,000 pound capacity) and one 5 ton wrecker or, preferrably, one tracked recovery vehicle in order to insure proper operational capability.

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AVGAZ-C 1 November 1967 SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 October 1967, Reports Control Symbol CSFOR-65 (U).

- c. Item: Firing the 175mm gun at quadrants less than 100.
- (1) Discussion: When the 175mm gun is fired at low quadrants (under 100) the recoil causes the tube to rise anywhere from 100 to 400 mils from the fired QE, depending on which charge is fired.
- (2) Observation: A possible safety hazard exists if the 175mm gun is fired at quadrants less than 100 mils. Excessive strain is placed on the mechanical and hydraulic elevating systems of the weapon. This strain would most likely shorten the life of these parts and possibly cause complete breakdown.

SECTION II

PART II, RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Personnel and Administration:

None

2. Intelligence

None

3. Training and Organization:

None

- (c) 4. Operations:
- a. That Air Force forward air controllers be given detailed instructions in the techniques of firing destruction missions using cannon artillery.
- b. That separated batteries (B & C) be issued one fork lift (10,000 pounds capacity) and one track recovery vehicle.
- c. That firing of the 175mm gun be prohibited under a 100 QE for reasons of safety and excessive strain on the elevating mechanism.

CLEVN W. MILLION
LITE, Articlery

Commanding

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AVGA-C (1 Nov 67)

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 October 1967,
Reports Control Symbol CSFOR-65, (UIC) WFTJTT'A

HEADQUARTERS, 54TH ARTILLERY GROUP, APO 96376

29 Nov 67

THRU: Commanding General, II Field Force Vietnam Artillery, ATTN: AVFI-FAC, APO 96266

Commanding General, United States Army Vietnam, ATTN: AVHGC-DH, APO 96375

Commanding General, United States Army Pacific, ATTN: GFOF-OT, APO 96558

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the Army, ATTW: ACSFOR, DA, Washington, D. C. 20310

- 1. (U) The quarterly report submitted by 1st En, 83d Artillery is considered adequate.
- 2. (C) Reference Section II, Part I, para 4a, Forward Air Controllers (FAC). The 54th Artillery Group concurs with the need for FAC's to be acquainted with destruction missions by cannon artillery. FAC's receive instruction on Artillery Adjustment in their training school. Upon arriving in country, FAC's are checked out by American Advisors in the procedures of Artillery Adjustment. Additional instruction is given whenever necessary.
- 3. (C) Reference Section II, Part I, para 4b, Lifting Equipment/Recovery Vehicle Equipment. The 54th Artillery Group concurs with the need of one track recovery vehicle for each separate heavy artillery battery. In October 1967, MTOE's were submitted containing a M572 Recovery Vehicle for each battery.
- 4. (C) Reference Section II, Part I, para 4c, Firing the 175MH Gum at Quadrants of 100 Mils or Less. According to the Technical Representative from the US Army Weapons Command to the 54th Artillery Group, the excessive jump is caused basically for two reasons: (1) Improper adjustment of the equilibrators and/or (2) The wearing out of the slip clutch and elevating torque locks. Production models are now being manufactured with redesigned stainless steel slip clutches, torque locks, elevating and traversing planetary gear carriers, and elevating drive columns. He further states that the kits are now in country for the old models. The heavy artillery units of the Group have been programmed to have these MwO's put on by the 29th Maintenance Group.

AVGA-C (1 Nov 67) let Ind 29 Nov 67
SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 October 1967,
Reports Control Symbol CSFOR-65, (UIC) WFTJTTOA

5. (C) Reference Section II, the 54th Artillery Group concurs with all recommendations of the let Bn, 83d Artillery, except para 4b. Approval of MTOE change to authorize a M578 Vehicle, Track Recovery per heavy battery will provide sufficient lift capability for separate batteries.

JOHN J. NORRIS Colonel, Artillery Commanding

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AVFB-FAC (1 Nov 67) 2nd Ind SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned (U)

DA, Headquarters, II Field Force Vietnam Artillery, APO 96266 15 DEC 1967

TERU: Commanding General, II Field Force Vietnam, APO 96260
Commanding General, United States Army Vietnam, ATTA: AVHGC-DH,
APO 96375
Commander-In-Chief, United States Army Pacific, ATTA: GPOP-OF,
APO 96558

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the Army, Masnington, D. C. 20310

- 1. (U) The quarterly report of the 1st Battalion, 83rd Artillery (UIC: WA11TO) adequately reflects the operations and lessons learned during the reporting period.
- 2. (C) Section II, Part II, paragraph 4a. Concur. Any action to improve the ability of the Forward Air Controller to place effective artillery fire on the enemy should be encouraged. This headquarters proposes to coordinate with headquarters, 7th Air Force in determining actions that can be taken to improve the effectiveness of artillery fire controlled by the Forward Air Controller.
- 3. (C) Section II, Part II, paragraph 4b. Monconcur. A fork lift has been provided B/1/83rd Artillery for its use. A fork lift for C/1/83rd Artillery located at Kuan Loc, is not considered necessary. The MTOE submitted in October 1967 requested an M578, Vehicle, Track, Recovery, be issued to each heavy battery. This MTOE has been approved by DA and is scheduled to be implemented by June 1968.
- 4. (C) Section II, Part II, paragraph 4c. Nonconcur with recommendation to prohibit firing below 100 mil QL. Technical Representatives from the US Army Meapons Command have stated that if proper adjustments are applied on the 175mm gun, the excessive jump problem should not occur. The Army Meapons Command has placed no restriction on firing below 100 mil QE. Installation of the MMO as explained in paragraph 4, 1st Indorsement, should correct this problem.

RAYMOND P. MURPAN
Brigadier General, USA
Commanding

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AVFBC-RE-H (1 Nov 67)

3d Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned for Quarterly Period Ending

31 October 1967 (RCS CSFOR-65) (UIC-WUFU TO) (U)

DA HQ II FFORCEV, APO San Francisco 96266 24 DEC 1967

THRU: Commanding General, US Army Vietnam, ATTN: AVHGC-DH, APO 96375

Commander-In-Chief, US Army Pacific, ATTN: GPOP-OT, APO 96558

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the Army, Washington, D.C. 20310

- 1. Subject report is forwarded.
- 2. This command has reviewed the attached report and concurs with the comments and recommendations with the following exceptions:

p 4, Classification of para 3 c Training. The nature of the training mentioned in para 3 c of the basic document is not in itself classified. However, the fact that personnel in this command are receiving out-of-country training in this subject warrants a SECRET-NOFORM classification.

Section I, p 1, para 1, Classify CONFIDENTIAL because of strength figures.

Section I, p 6, para 5, Classify CONFIDENTIAL because it discusses specific logistical problems.

Section I, p 6, para 6, Nonconcur. No requirement now exists for additional VHF equipment for B/1/83d Arty. Army Area circuitry will be providing communications for this unit.

Section II, Part I, p 7, para 4, Classify CONFIDENTIAL because specific weaknesses in systems and techniques are revealed.

Section II, Part II, para 4, Classify CONFIDENTIAL for reasons cited in c above.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

1 Incl

E. E. VANESCANSS CPT. ACC

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AVHGC-DST (1 Nov 67)

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 October 1967, Reports Control Symbol CSFOR-65 (U)

HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY VIETNAM, APO San Francisco 96375 22 JAN 1968

TO: Commander in Chief, United States Army, Pacific, ATTN: GPOP-DT, APO 96558

1. (U) This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the quarterly period ending 31 October 1967 from Headquarters, 1st Battalion, 83d Artillery (A11A) as indorsed.

2. (C) Pertinent comments follow:

.. 6

- a. Reference item concerning forward air controllers, page 7, paragraph 4a; page 8, paragraph 4a; and 2d Indorsement, paragraph 2: Concur. In as much as the Forward Air Controller's (FAC) primary mission is the control of tactical air strikes, it must be realized that their capability to adjust artillery fire will be limited. The local artillery commander should acquaint the FAC with artillery adjustment procedures so that he becomes more responsive when called upon to perform this mission.
- b. Reference item concerning lifting equipment, page 7, paragraph 4b; page 8, paragraph 4b; and 2d Indorsement, paragraph 3. A check of MTCE submitted to DA for approval does not indicate that the M578 vehicles have been included. At the time of submission of MTCE the DA Standardization Team disallowed the vehicle for each heavy battery. It appears that the needs of the battery have been met from locally available resources, which is commendable.
- 3. (U) A copy of this indorsement will be furnished to the reporting unit through channels.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Major, AGC Asst Adjutant General

cy furn: HQ, II FFORCEV HQ, 1st Bn, 83d Arty

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